CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service express mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

on January 23, 2004.

QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP, P.C.

Amelia ! Weintraub

Appl. No.

10/656,916

Confirmation No. 9096

Applicant Filed

Mihai Buretea, et al. September 4, 2003

TC/A.U.

1774

Examiner

Unassigned

Docket No.

40-000810US

Customer No.:

22798

Client Ref No.:

1-000810US

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please enter the following preliminary amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.